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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The failure of the Soviets to achieve anything at San Francisco is a bitter disappointment to the Chinese Communists. Prior to the suspension of the Kaesong cease-fire talks¹ the Chinese and Soviets differed: the Chinese wanted to reach an understanding with the United Nations before the Peace Conference, because they felt then it would then be easier to fight at the Conference for a stabilized international position; the Soviets, however, insisted that the talks must be protracted until the end of the San Francisco Conference, and a decision on what attitude is to be taken toward the cease-fire talks should then be reached against the background of the new world situation. At the beginning of August MAO Tse-tung led a meeting of both Soviet and Chinese military persons at which the problem was discussed. At the end of the meeting it was decided to adopt the Soviet proposals.
2. The Soviet peace offensive was based on the proposal by Shvernik of a five power meeting, and to push it was clearly the reason for the Soviets' attending the San Francisco Conference. The purpose of the meeting was to gain international recognition for the Chinese Communists in order to stabilize their rule in China. Soviet efforts along this line are the result of Chinese demands.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The North Koreans announced the suspension of the cease-fire talks on 23 August.

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